

A map of the Middle East with Iraq highlighted in yellow. The surrounding regions are in a light tan color, and the Persian Gulf is shown in light blue.

Iraq Weekly Status Report

February 22, 2006

**Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs
US Department of State**



Table of Contents

This report provides weekly updates in the eight key areas identified as pillars of US government policy for victory in Iraq.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SECTION	SLIDE
<u>Highlights</u>	3
1. <u>Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgents</u>	5
2. <u>Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance</u>	6
3. <u>Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government</u>	8
4. <u>Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services</u>	11
5. <u>Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy</u>	16
6. <u>Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law and Promote Civil Rights</u>	24
7. <u>Increase International Support for Iraq</u>	25
8. <u>Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents</u>	28
<u>Sources and Contact Information</u>	30
<u>Notes and Source Citations</u>	31



Highlights

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1. Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgents

During an operation in a rural area about 30 miles northeast of Ramadi, coalition forces uncovered an al Qaeda document that outlined a plot to kill members of the Albu-Nimr tribe. The plan revealed rocket attacks and assassinations against the tribe members in Hit.

2. Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance

Chief of Staff and Commanding General of the Iraqi Joint Forces, General Babakir Zibari visited the Iraqi Military Academy Al Rustamiyah last week. There he spoke with soldiers attending the Staff College.

3. Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq Ashraf Qazi traveled to Ramadi, Al-Anbar province, on Monday and met with Governor Ma'amun Al-Alwani and the Governorate Council at the Governor's office.

4. Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services

Iraqi Ministry of Electricity engineers completed Capacity Development training in the US from January 9 – 20. The \$400,000 project trained the Iraqi Engineers on the use of state-of-the-art electrical power system modeling software, an industry standard in more than 123 countries.



Highlights

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

5. Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy

Finland signed a bilateral debt relief agreement with Iraq on February 16. The agreement meets Paris Club terms and forgives 80 percent (\$200 million) of Iraq's \$250 million debt to Finland.

6. Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law

State Department legal adviser John Bellinger said that Iraqi officials need the world's help to document the abuses of Saddam Hussein's regime and bring its deposed leader to justice.

7. Increase International Support for Iraq

On February 22 UN Secretary-General Annan, following the bombing of the holy Shrine of Imam Ali-Hadi Mosque in Samarra, called "all political and religious leaders of Iraq to come together in a spirit of dialogue and mutual respect to calm the situation and dedicate their efforts to ensure the respect of human rights and the protection of places of worship."

8. Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents

President Bush "conveyed his deepest condolences to the people of Iraq for the brutal bombing of the Golden Mosque in Samarra", during an address to the nation on February 22.



[1.] Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgency

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Troops Nab Suspects, Weapons:

- Coalition and Iraqi forces detained 42 suspected terrorists and seized several weapons caches in operations on February 18-19. Iraqi security and coalition forces successfully identified and removed three roadside bombs, uncovered two weapons caches and detained three suspects in the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division's area of operations.

Troops Foil Bombing, Uncover Plot:

- During an operation in a rural area about 30 miles northeast of Ramadi, coalition forces uncovered an al Qaeda document that outlined a plot to kill members of the Albu-Nimr tribe. The plan revealed rocket attacks and assassinations against the tribe members in Hit. A second document detailed how al Qaeda degraded and destroyed phone switches in Haditha, Baghdadi, and Hit and took phone cards away from people so they could not call out. Coalition forces turned both documents over to the Iraqi Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Interior.



[2.] Transition to Security Self-Reliance – Iraqi Security Forces

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Iraqi Military Police School Prepares Soldiers to 'Serve and Protect':

- Chief of Staff and Commanding General of the Iraqi Joint Forces, General Babakir Zibari visited the Iraqi Military Academy Al Rustamiyah last week. There he spoke with soldiers attending the Staff College. Babakir addressed the crowd of about 150 junior and senior level officers along with Iraqi and Coalitions forces on the topic of ethics among the ranks.

Iraqi Army trains with Combat Aviation Brigade:

- Three platoons of Iraqi army soldiers converged on Taji Military Training Base recently to train with and learn from Soldiers of the 4th Infantry Division's Combat Aviation Brigade and the 1st Brigade Combat Team. The Iraqi soldiers trained on various air assault techniques in addition to fundamental helicopter safety. The training was designed to help the Iraqi army better defend itself against the insurgency and to establish itself as a more capable defense force. The speed with which the Iraqi soldiers took to the training impressed several coalition soldiers.



[2.] Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance – Iraqi Security Forces

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Ministry of Interior Forces

COMPONENT	TRAINED & EQUIPPED
POLICE	~85,900
HIGHWAY PATROL	
OTHER MOI FORCES	~37,700
TOTAL	~123,600*

Ministry of Defense Forces

COMPONENT	OPERATIONAL
ARMY	~107,200
AIR FORCE	~500
NAVY	~800
TOTAL	~108,500**

Total Trained & Equipped ISF:
~232,100

* Ministry of Interior Forces: Unauthorized absence personnel are included in these numbers

** Ministry of Defense Forces: Unauthorized absence personnel are not included in these numbers

Data as of February 20, 2006 (updated bi-weekly by DOD)



[3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government– **Developments**

D
E
P
A
R
T
M
E
N
T
O
F
S
T
A
T
E

Conclusion of NGO Post-Election Capacity Building Program:

- The National Democratic Institute (NDI) Civil Society team completed its comprehensive 14-day training, from January 28 - February 9, on non-government organization (NGO) capacity-building for a group of NGOs previously involved in election monitoring activities. In total, 38 trainees graduated successfully from the Institute's NGO Election Academy. NGOs participating in the workshop are members of the Iraqi Election Information Network (EIN) and represent all 18 governorates. Trainers will then conduct three-day training sessions for NGO activists in their respective Governorates. Each trainer team, one per core NGO, will train up to 25 NGO activists on topics covered during the Academy, such as project cycle, strategic planning, monitoring and reporting and elections.



[3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government— **Developments**

IECI Official Announced 15 December 2005 Election Results:

Political Entity Name	Ballot Number	Total Votes	Governorate Seats	Compensatory Seats	National Seats	Total Seats
Unified Iraqi Coalition	555	5021137	109	0	19	128
Kurdistani Gathering	730	2642172	43	0	10	53
Tawafoq Iraqi Front	618	1840216	37	0	7	44
National Iraqi List	731	977325	21	0	4	25
Hewar National Iraqi Front	667	499963	9	0	2	11
Islamic Union of Kurdistan	561	157688	4	0	1	5
Liberation and Reconciliation Gathering	516	129847	3	0	0	3
Mithal Al Aloosi List for Iraqi Nation	620	32245	1	0	0	1
Iraqi Turkoman Front	630	87993	1	0	0	1
Progressives	631	145028	1	0	1	2
Al Ezediah Movement for Progressing and Reform	668	21908	1	0	0	1
Al Rafedain List	740	47263	0	1	0	1
Total			230	1	44	275



[3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government - Iraqi Transitional Government

		Deputy President Sheikh Ghazi al-Yawr	President Jalal Talabani	Deputy President 'Adil 'Abd al-Mahdi	
			Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Ja'fari		
Deputy Prime Minister Rawsh Shaways	Deputy Prime Minister 'Abd Mutlak al-Juburi			Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad al-Chalabi	Deputy Prime Minister Vacant
Minister of Agriculture Ali al-Bahadili	Minister of Communications Juwan Fu'ad Ma'sum (F)	Minister of Culture Nuri al-Rawi	Minister of Defense Sa'dun al-Dulaymi	Minister of Displacement & Migration Suhayla al-Kinani (F)	Minister of Electricity Muhsin Shallash
Minister of Education Abdul Mun'im al-Falah Hasan	Minister of Environment Narmin 'Uthman (F)	Minister of Finance 'Ali 'Allawi	Minister of Foreign Affairs Hoshiyar Zebari	Minister of Health Abd al-Muttalib al-Rubay'i	Minister of Higher Education Sami al-Muzaffar
Minister of Human Rights Vacant	Minister of Industry & Minerals Usama al-Najafi	Minister of Interior Bayan Jabr	Minister of Justice 'Abd al-Husayn Shandal	Minister of Housing & Construction Jasim Ja'far	Minister of Labor & Social Affairs Idris Hadi
Minister of Oil Hashem al-Hashemi (Acting)	Minister of Planning Barham Salih	Minister of Trade 'Abd al-Basit Mawlut	Minister of Science & Technology Basima Butrus (F)	Minister of Municipalities & Public Works Nasreen Berwari (F)	Minister of Transportation Salam al-Maliki
Minister of Water Resources 'Abd al-Latif Rashid	Minister of Youth & Sports Talib Aziz al-Zaini	Minister of State for Civil Society 'Ala' abib Kazim	Minister of State for National Assembly Affairs Safa' al-Din al-Safi	Minister of State for National Security Affairs 'Abd al-Karim al-'Anzi	
		Minister of State for Provinces Sa'd al-Hardan	Minister of State for Tourism and Antiquities Hashim al-Hashimi	Minister of State for Women's Affairs Azhar al-Shaykhli (F)	

(F) = Female



[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Financials from Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund (IRRF) 1 and IRRF 2

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

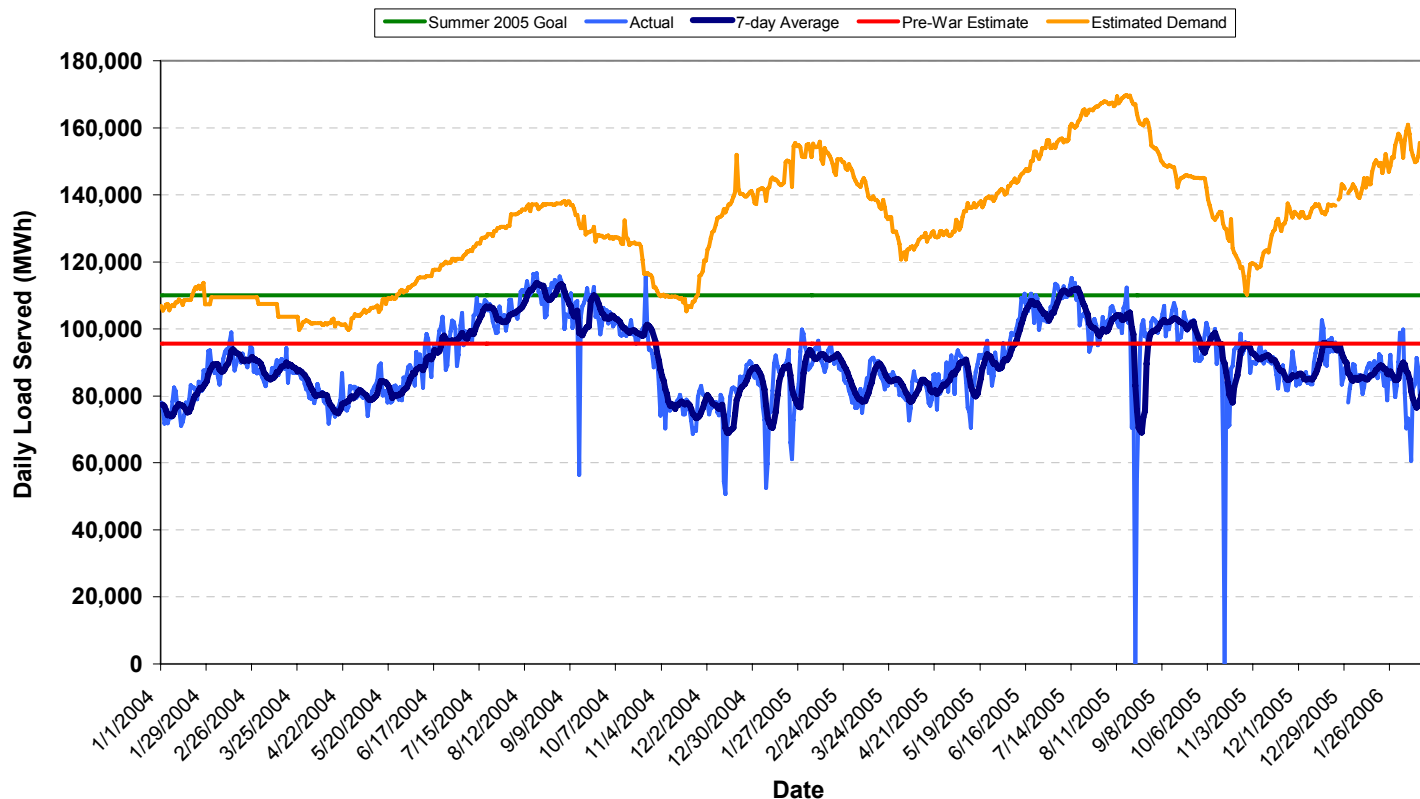
Sector	Apportioned		Committed			Obligated			Disbursed		
	2207 Report	Apportioned	Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change
Security and Law Enforcement	5050.60	5050.60	4,949.9	4,949.7	(0.21)	4,805.2	4,840.6	35.40	4,220.9	4,204.6	63.8
Electricity Sector	4309.82	4077.22	3,704.0	3,715.4	11.42	3,256.3	3,253.5	(2.78)	1,926.1	1,938.5	12.4
Oil Infrastructure	1723.00	1723.00	1,690.6	1,691.1	0.45	1,523.5	1,514.5	(9.05)	741.2	739.4	(1.9)
Justice, Public Safety and Civil Society	1251.15	1251.15	1,215.7	1,208.3	(7.40)	1,139.9	1,136.6	(3.22)	773.0	774.7	1.7
Democracy	1033.85	1033.85	974.7	974.7	0.00	973.4	973.4	0.00	650.2	650.4	0.1
Education, Refugees, Human Rights, Governance	383.00	383.00	342.0	342.0	0.04	337.7	337.7	(0.03)	226.6	228.7	2.1
Roads, Bridges and Construction	333.72	333.71	292.0	306.2	14.17	267.9	291.4	23.55	173.1	171.8	(1.3)
Health Care	739.00	739.00	732.1	732.1	0.00	647.2	650.1	2.89	397.8	393.6	(4.2)
Transportation and Communications	470.51	470.51	430.4	431.1	0.72	381.7	385.2	3.50	227.0	227.6	0.6
Water Resources and Sanitation	2131.08	1819.08	1,586.9	1,586.7	(0.20)	1,453.1	1,485.2	32.04	811.0	820.1	9.1
Private Sector Development	900.28	900.28	793.5	793.5	0.00	782.3	782.3	0.00	579.4	585.0	5.6
Admin Expense (USAID, STATE)	213.00	213.00	159.7	159.7	0.00	159.7	159.7	0.00	59.2	61.1	1.9
TOTAL	18439.00	17894.40	16,871.5	16,890.5	18.99	15,728.0	15,810.3	82.29	10,785.5	10,875.4	89.9
IRRF 2 Construction			9,568.4	9,590.5	22.09	8,712.4	8,792.9	80.48	5,486.7	5,531.9	45.2
IRRF 2 Non-Construction			6,328.4	6,325.3	(3.10)	6,042.2	6,044.0	1.81	4,648.5	4,693.1	44.6
IRRF 2 Democracy			975.3	975.3	0.00	973.4	973.4	0.00	650.2	650.4	0.1
IRRF 1 Subtotal	2473.30	2473.30	2,473.3	2473.30	0.00	2,473.3	2,473.3	0.00	2,406.6	2,406.6	0.0
Grand Total IRRF 1 & 2	20912.30	20367.70	19,344.8	19,363.8	18.99	18,201.3	18,283.6	82.29	13,192.1	13,282.0	89.9

As of February 21, 2006



[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Electricity Overview

Daily Electricity Supplied and Estimated Demand in Iraq Since January 2004



- Electricity availability in Baghdad increased in the last week (February 14-20) with an average of 6.4 hours per day.
- Nationwide average electricity availability stayed steady at 10.1 hours per day.
- Electricity output in January 2005 and 2006 are approximately equivalent. 2006 electricity output levels would be higher if not for sabotage.



[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – **Electricity and Education**

Electricity:

- Construction is complete for two electrical distribution projects in the Ninewa Province. Refurbishment to the Bab Al Baidh (\$859K) substation and the Bab Al Top (\$224K) substation was completed on January 24. The rehabilitated substations increase the power distribution throughout the existing power grid and benefit the Mosul neighborhoods of Al Baidh (5,000 residents) and Al Top (4,500 residents).
- Rehabilitation of the Darkar Substation in Dahuk Province was completed on February 13. The substation was energized and handed over to the local electrical authority. The substation will supply power to the local distribution network and eventually to 10,000 homes or approximately 50,000 people.

Education:

- The Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology (COSIT) opened a new computer training center. Prior to the establishment of the new facilities, training was conducted in a small room with old computers that were unreliable and could not run the necessary statistical software. Through the USAID project, a modern computer training center was successfully opened within COSIT. This training center enables COSIT's Statistical Training Section to conduct additional computer based statistical training courses for its clients across all government ministries in a modern and stable environment.



[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Public Health, Healthcare, Water and Sanitation

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Public Health and Healthcare:

- After a year under construction, the USG-funded Baqubah General Hospital project is finished. The 331-bed hospital includes surgery and consultation service clinics that see 400-500 patients daily. The facility now includes a new incinerator and reverse osmosis water treatment system; plumbing and sewer system upgrade; architectural renovation; emergency backup generator and repaired elevators. These facility upgrades will improve conditions for both patients and the health care providers. It is one of two hospitals in Baqubah.

Water and Sanitation:

- USAID trained 36 water pump caretakers throughout south-central Iraq to improve the functioning of local water pumps. In addition to training courses on repairs and routine maintenance, the caretakers have been provided with the necessary repair tool kits and barrels. Enhancing the technical capacity of the water station operators will reduce system breakdowns and idle time, and increase reliability and life span. USAID has previously supported the pumping, storage, and distribution systems in more than 30 settlement areas for internally displaced persons.

[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – **Transportation and Communications**



Communications:

- The Ministry of Communications has signed a contract with Nortel to enhance the reliability and the capacity of the national fiber network. The Ministry has selected a vendor to implement a metropolitan area fiber network in Baghdad, although the Prime Minister's office has not yet given final approval to proceed. The Ministry has requested funding for fiber optic equipment for the International Zone. All projects, if approved, will use Iraqi funding.



[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Oil Update and Job Creation

Oil Update:

- Crude oil prices in world markets for the week ending February 17 closed with the following prices:
 - Basra Light at \$49.14/barrel
 - WTI Cushing at \$59.36/barrel
 - Dated Brent at \$57.60/barrel
 - Oman/Dubai at \$56.21/barrel

Employment Update:

- The following chart shows the number of Iraqis employed by USG-administered projects:

Employing Organization	Iraqis Last Week	Iraqis This Week	% Increase on Week
PCO (Project and Contracting Office)	36,320	36,320	0.00%
USAID	57,247	49,734	-13.12%
AIRP (Accelerated Iraqi Reconstruction Program)	1,680	1,680	0.00%
MILCON (Military Construction)	313	313	0.00%
CERP (Commanders' Emergency Response Program)	0	0	0.00%
MNSTC-I	16,619	16,660	0.25%
IRRF NON-CONSTRUCTION	15,887	15,887	0.00%
GRAND TOTAL	128,066	120,594	-5.83%

Data as of February 21

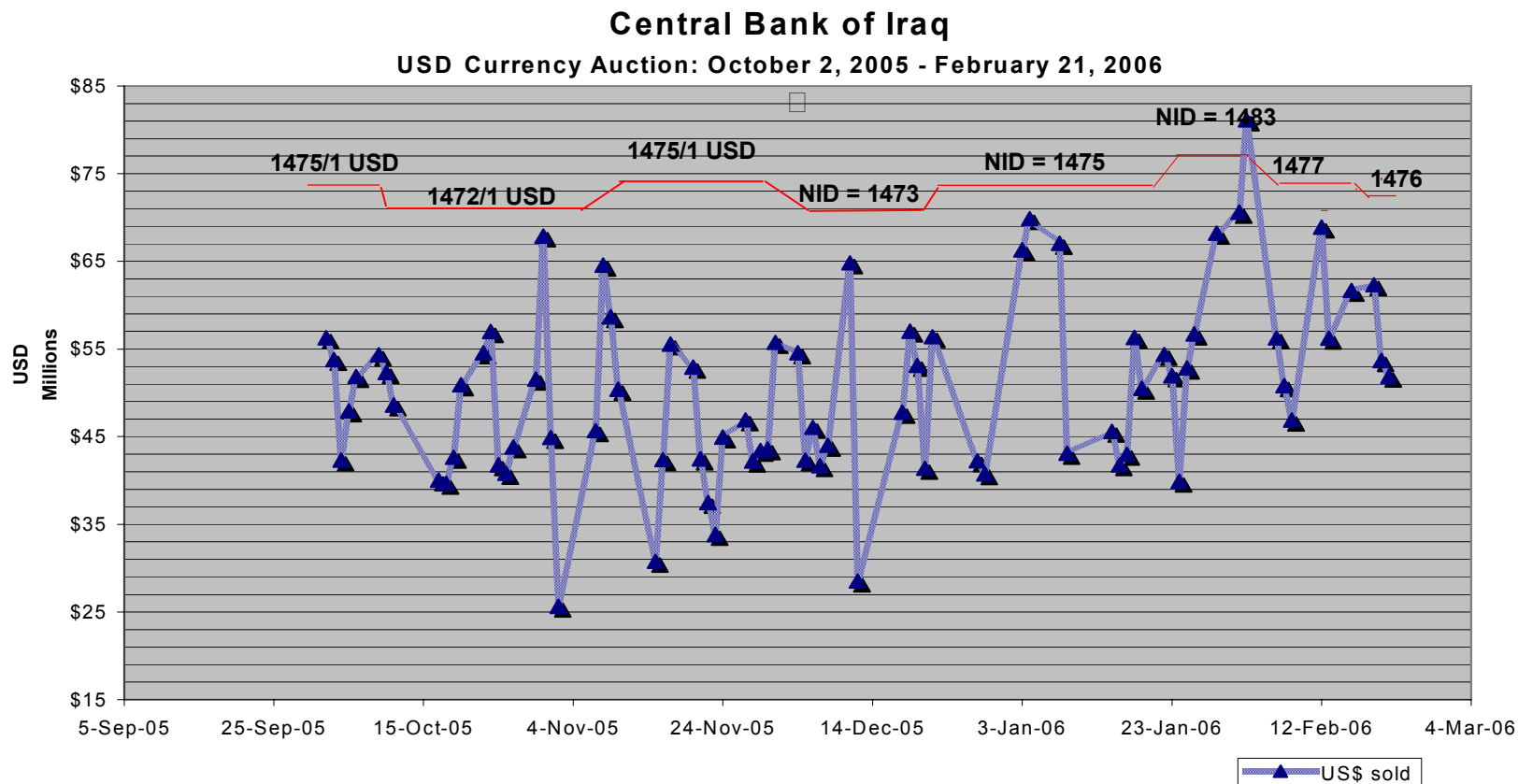
CERP numbers have not been updated. They are updated biweekly by PCO.



[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy - Banking Sector

Central Bank's US Dollar (USD) Currency Auction:

- The following table shows volume sold and exchange rates for USD in the Iraqi currency auction since October 2, 2005. The dinar remained stable against the dollar this week, ending at 1,476 dinars per USD on February 21.



*On January 8, the CBI purchased \$1,320,000 of Iraqi Dinars at the exchange rate of 1481 NID/\$.

*The NID exchange rate line is calculated as a weekly weighted average.

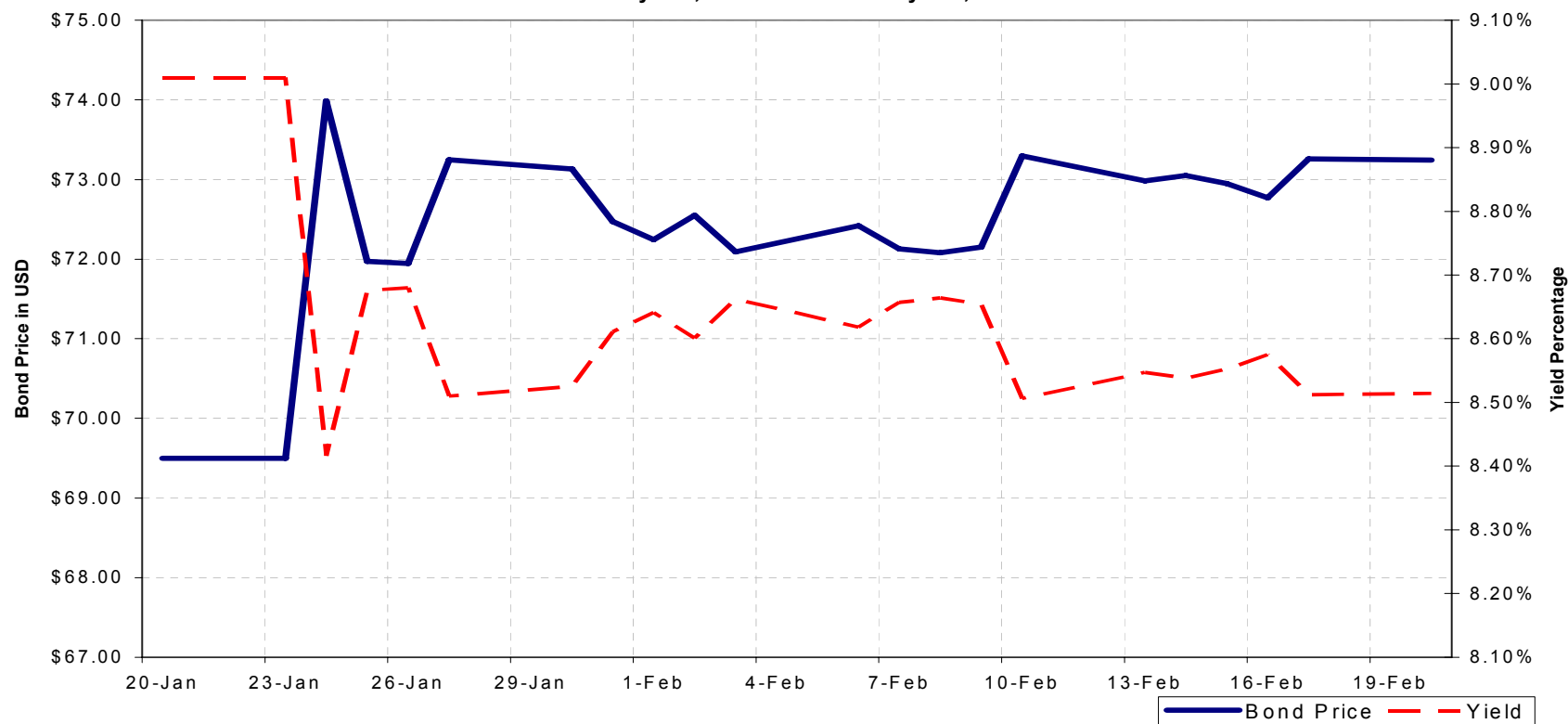


[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Securities Markets

Trade of Iraqi Bonds on the International Secondary Bond Market:

- The following table shows the daily bond resale price and yield on Iraq bonds issued January 20, 2006. The bonds were originally issued to about two-thirds of Iraq's commercial creditors to repay 20 percent of Iraq's \$22 billion in commercial debt. The bonds, which are not yet rated, will mature in 2028. These are the only Iraqi sovereign debt instruments trading on the international market. With a current yield of 9.746 percent, it is slightly lower than Ecuador and Argentina, but the return is still one of the highest in the world for sovereign debt instruments.

Iraqi Commercial Bond Sales
January 20, 2006 - February 20, 2006





[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy

DE
P
A
R
T
M
E
N
T

O
F

S
T
A
T
E

Finland Cancels 80 percent of Iraq's Debt in Bilateral Agreement:

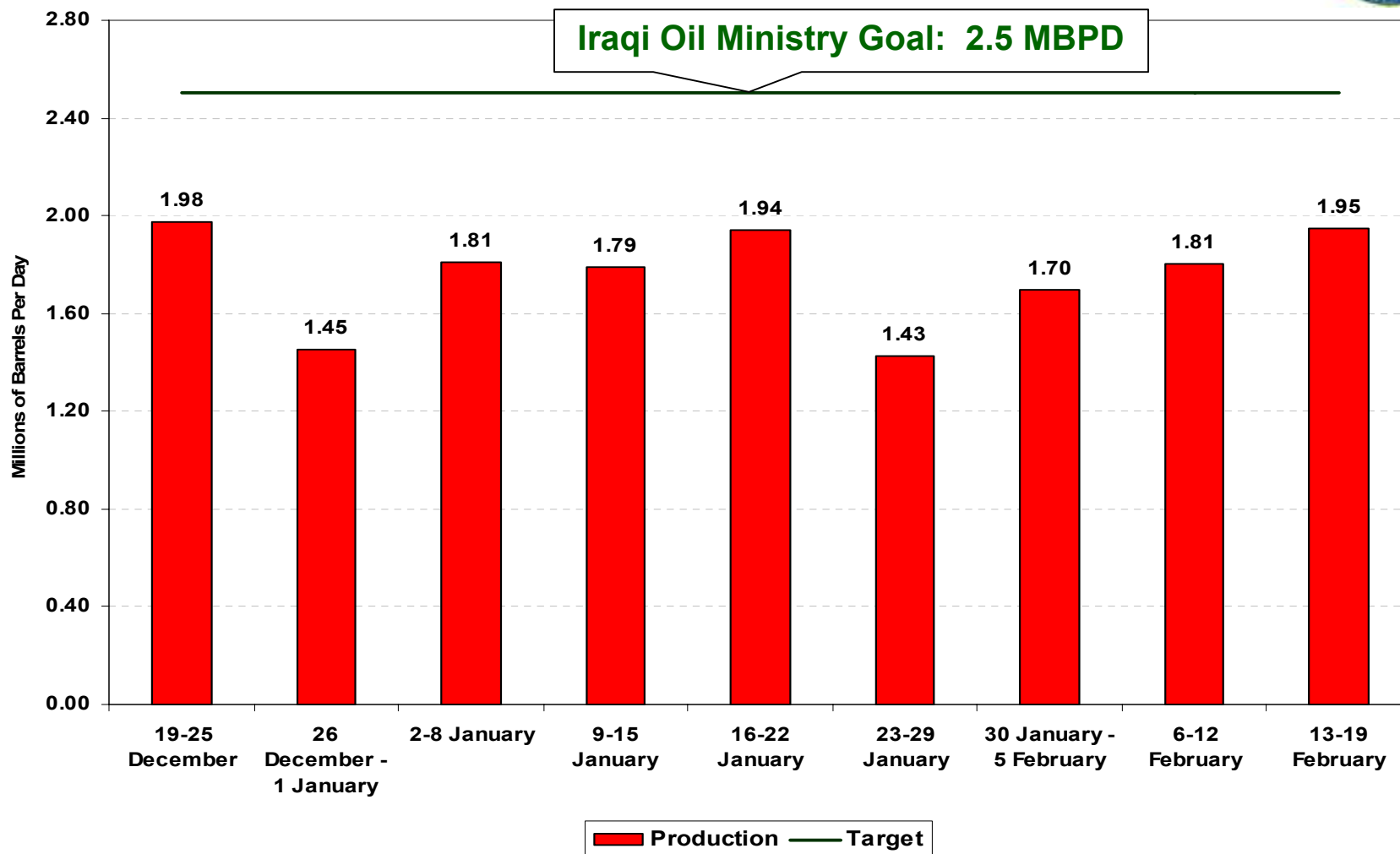
- As part of Iraq's ongoing efforts to restructure the country's foreign debt left over from the Saddam Hussein era, Iraqi officials announced on February 16 the signing of a bilateral debt relief agreement with Finland. The agreement meets Paris Club terms and forgives 80 percent (\$200 million) of Iraq's \$250 million debt to Finland.

Iraq to sign wheat deals with Canadian, German and US suppliers:

- Iraq's grain board revealed plans to purchase wheat from Canadian, German and US suppliers.
- The head of the Iraqi Grain Board clarified that the board decided to deal with Canada, Germany and United States after suspending trade with Australia's wheat exporter.
- During the 2004-2005 wheat sale year (July to June) the US sold a record amount of wheat to Iraq, shipping about 2.1 million tons.



[5.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Crude Oil Production

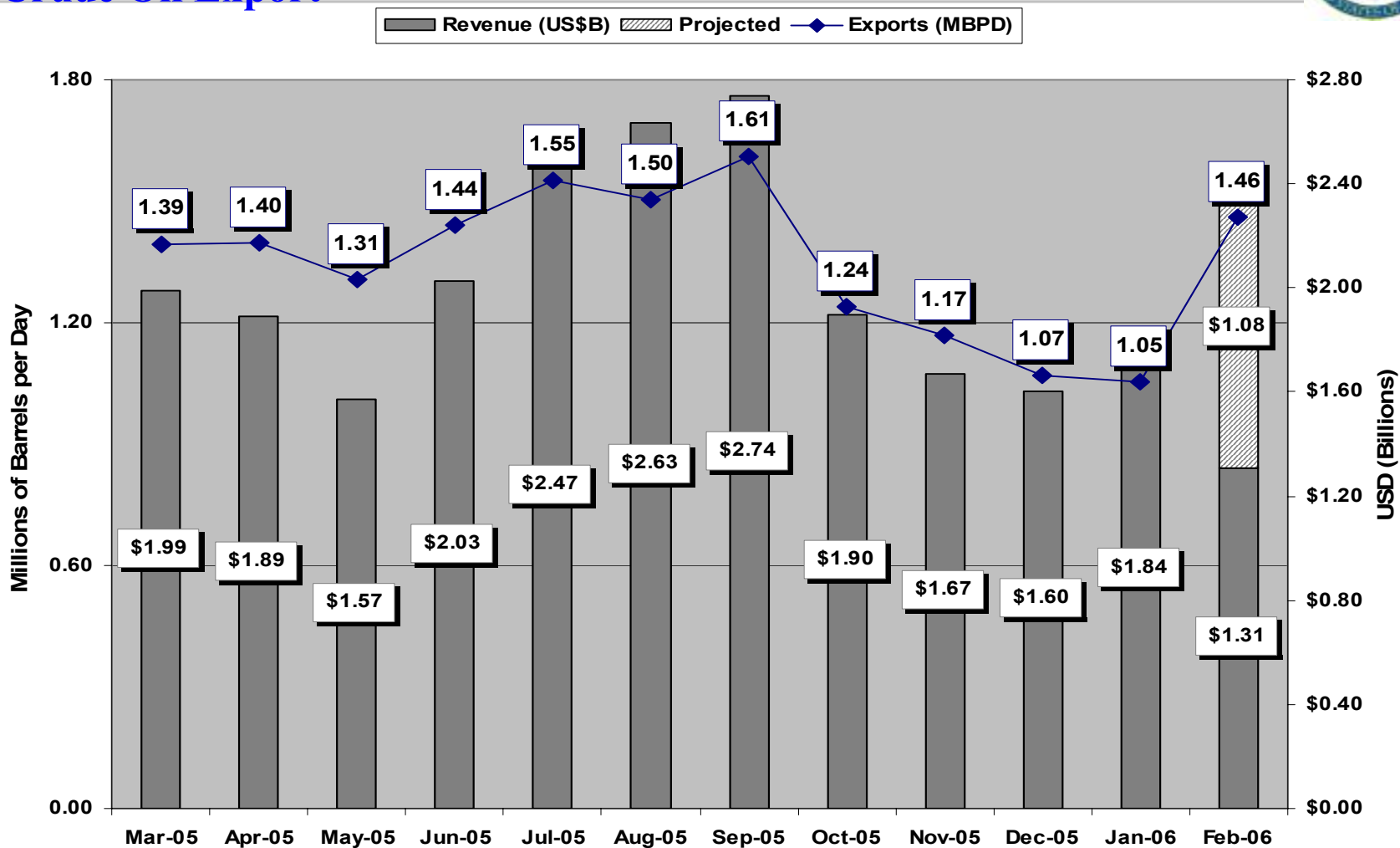
D
E
P
A
R
T
M
E
N
T
O
F
S
T
A
T
E

- Weekly Average (February 13-19) of 1.95 Million Barrels Per Day (MBPD)



[5.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Crude Oil Export

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

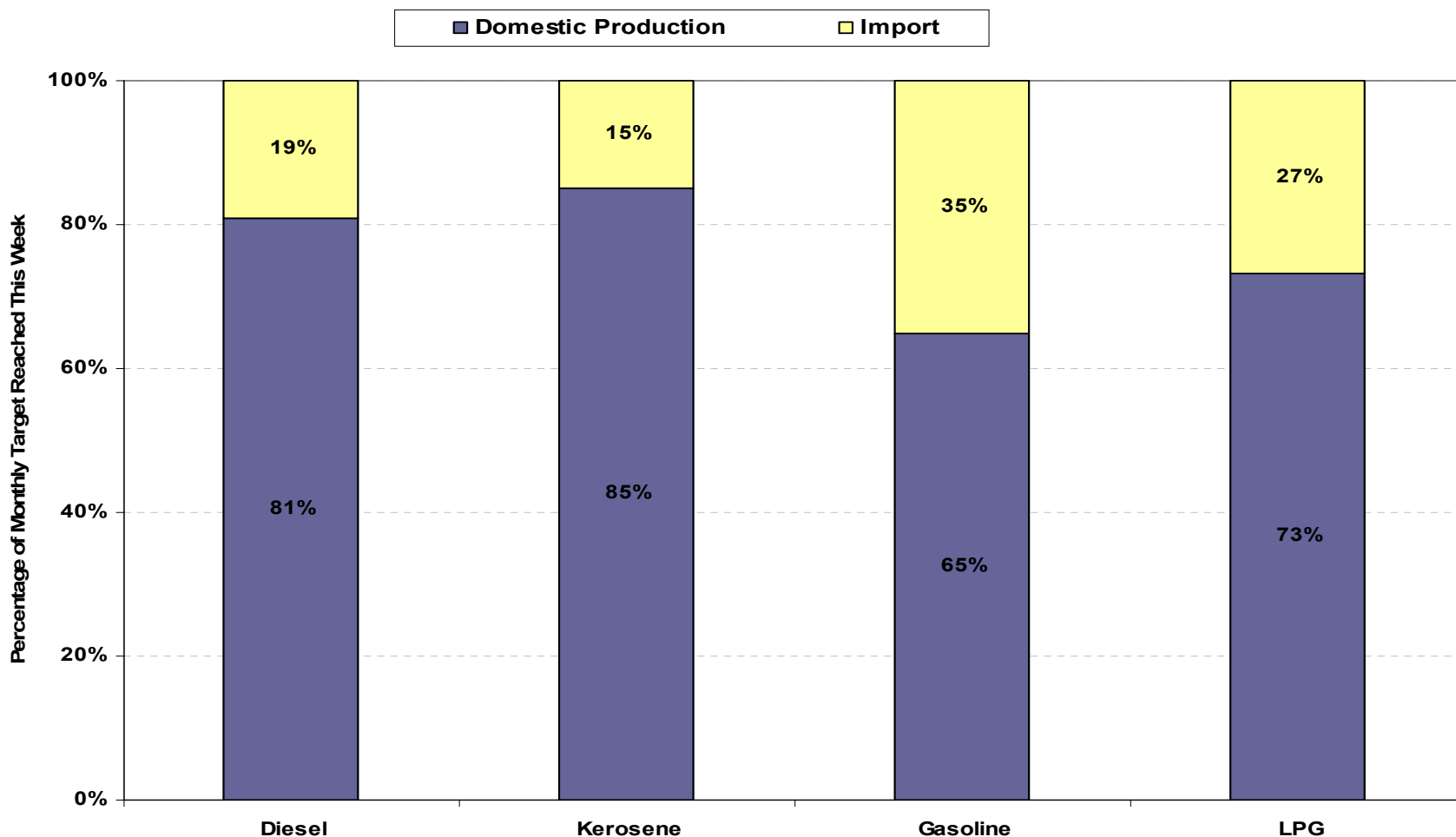


- 2005 Revenue: \$23.5 B
- 2006 Revenue: \$3.2 B (Year to Date)



[5.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Total Critical Refined Product Supplies

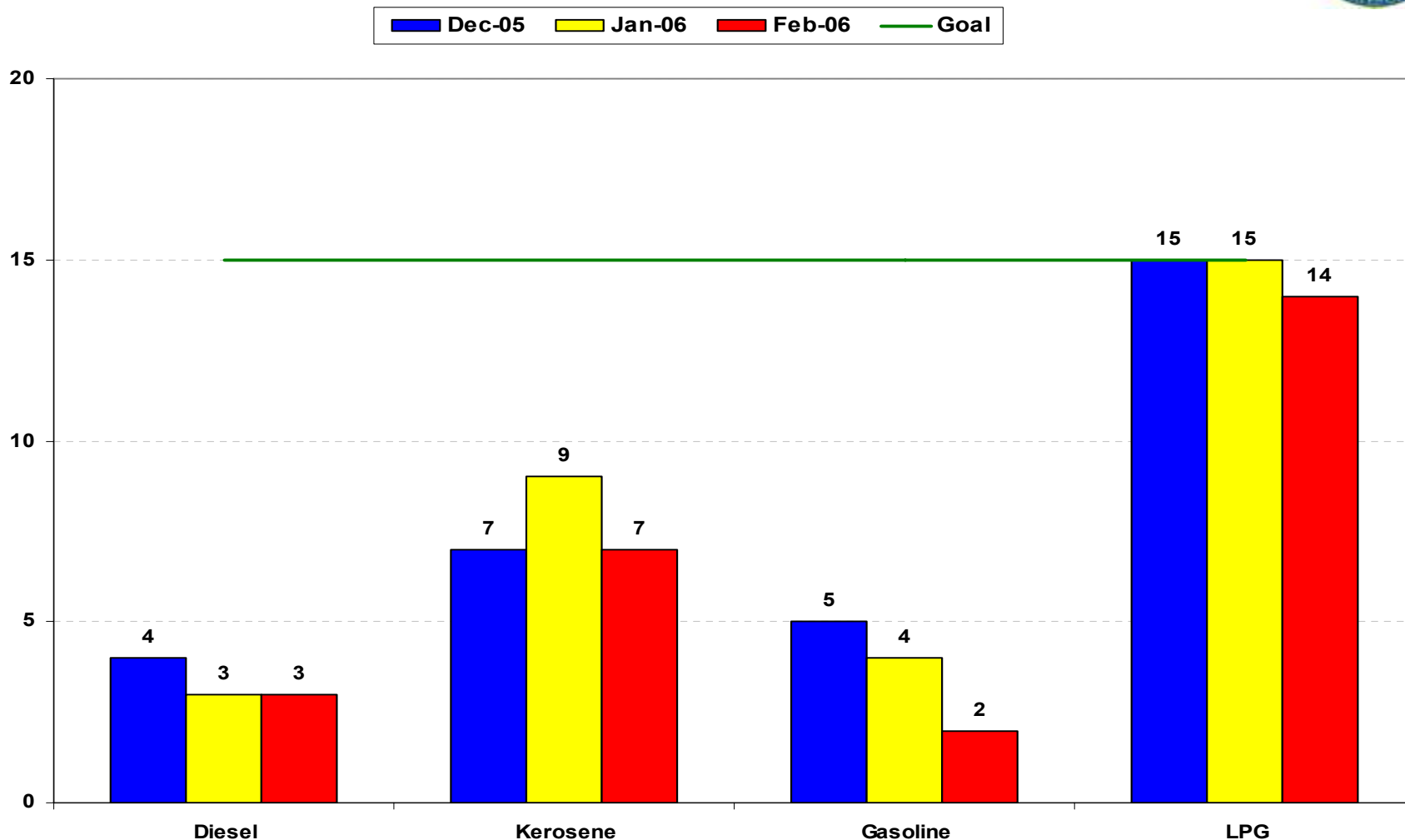
DEPARTMENT OF STATE



Note: This is a daily average for the week of February 13-19

- Diesel: 10.1 ML supply of 20.6 ML target
- Kerosene: 4.9 ML supply of 10.5 ML target
- Gasoline: 11.4 ML supply of 23.4 ML target
- LPG: 2,125 tons supply of 4,400 tons target

[5.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – National Stock Levels

D
E
P
A
R
T
M
E
N
T
O
F
S
T
A
T
E

- The goal is to have on hand 15 days supply of all refined products, calculated on the basis of maximum consumption over the year and not adjusted for seasonal variation. The numbers given above are monthly averages.



[6.] Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law and Promote Civil Rights– Iraqi Judicial System

DE
P
A
R
T
M
E
N
T

O
F

S
T
A
T
E

Iraq Needs Immediate Aid To Prosecute Saddam Hussein's Regime:

- Iraqi officials need the world's help to document the abuses of Saddam Hussein's regime and bring its deposed leader to justice, says State Department legal adviser John Bellinger. "This is a process that the Iraqis want to do themselves. They have experienced judges who are leading this process. But nonetheless, there is a need for international assistance," Bellinger told journalists at a February 15 briefing in Washington.
 - Among Iraq's most immediate needs, Bellinger said, are forensic experts to investigate mass grave sites, support for witness interviews and protection and legal experts to advise prosecutors.
 - Bellinger observed that prior to the Iraq war, "The human rights organizations, the United Nations, the international community had roundly condemned Saddam for his atrocities and had called, in fact, for the world to do something about it."



[7.] Increase International Support for Iraq – **Developments**

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

UN Calls Meeting of Iraqi Leaders to Curb Sectarian Strife After Shrine Attack:

- On February 22 UN Secretary-General Annan, appealed to all communities to show maximum restraint following the bombing of the Golden Mosque in Samarra. “The Secretary-General further calls on all political and religious leaders of Iraq to come together in a spirit of dialogue and mutual respect to calm the situation and dedicate their efforts to ensure the respect of human rights and the protection of places of worship.” SYG Annan said that “The United Nations will continue to do everything possible to assist the Iraqi people to promote inter-communal dialogue and national reconciliation.”

Ambassador Khalilzad Reacts to Iranian FM Statements:

- On February 20, Iranian Foreign Minister Manushehr Mottaki called for British troops to withdraw from Basra, accusing them of destabilizing Iraq's second largest city. Responding to Iran's formal statement, the US Ambassador Khalilzad said that Iran provided training and weapons to Iraqi militias and extremist groups and criticized Tehran's demand that British forces immediately withdraw from Basra.



[7.] Increase International Support for Iraq – **Developments**

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Russia Promises Continued Support:

- On February 16, the United Nations envoy to Iraq briefed Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on the situation in Iraq, focusing on the December 15 elections and the role of the UN Assistance Mission. During the visit, Lavrov expressed his “appreciation” for the UN role in Iraq and “promised continued Russian support.”

Arab League Sponsored National Reconciliation Conference Set for June:

- On February 21, during a visit to Baghdad, Arab League envoy Mustafa Othman announced that the “National Reconciliation Conference”, a meeting of Iraqi politicians and organizations organized by the Arab League, will take place in Iraq in early June.



[7.] Increase International Support for Iraq – Contributors to Iraqi Stability Operations

Data as of February 20, 2006

26 Countries with forces in Iraq (in addition to US)

Albania	El Salvador	Lithuania	Romania
Armenia	Estonia	Macedonia	Slovakia
Australia	Georgia	Moldova	South Korea
Azerbaijan	Italy	Mongolia	Ukraine
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Japan	Netherlands	UK
Czech Republic	Kazakhstan	Poland	
Denmark	Latvia	Portugal	

TOTAL ~ 20,000 Forces

*Note: Fiji participating as a part of the UN mission in Iraq.

29 Countries and NATO
(including US)
Support Iraqi Stability Operations



[8.] Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents – *Developments*

Strategic Communications:

- President Bush, in an address to the nation following the bombing in Samarra, Iraq, stated, “On behalf of the American people, I extend my deepest condolences to the people of Iraq for the brutal bombing of the Golden Mosque in Samarra, one of the holiest sites in Shi’a Islam. The terrorists in Iraq have again proven that they are enemies of all faiths and of all humanity. The world must stand united against them, and steadfast behind the people of Iraq...The United States stands ready to do all in its power to assist the Government of Iraq to identify and bring to justice those responsible for this terrible act. And the American people pledge to work with the people of Iraq to rebuild and restore the Golden Mosque of Samarra to its former glory.”
- In response to the destruction of the Golden Mosque in Samarra on February 22, Ambassador Khalilzad and General Casey issued a statement condemning the acts as terrorist violence. “We denounce in the strongest terms the terrorist destruction of the Golden Mosque – the Shrine of the Askari Imams. This heinous crime is a deliberate attempt to foment sectarian strife in Iraq and the region. Given the historic, cultural, and religious importance of this shrine, this attack is a crime against humanity. The Shrine should be rebuilt and the United States will contribute to its reconstruction. The Iraqi people, in this hour of sadness and anger over a despicable crime, must not allow themselves to be divided...This is a critical moment for Iraq. We call on all Iraqis to unite against terror and violence. Coming together in unity to condemn this barbaric act and working for Iraq’s salvation will be the right response.”



[8.] Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents – Developments

Strategic Communications:

- On February 17, Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said to the Council on Foreign Relations that “today, in Iraq, an energetic media has emerged from the rubble of Saddam’s police state, with nearly 300 newspapers, over 90 radio stations and more than 40 television stations. Iraqis are now accessing the Web in their homes, as well as in internet cafes that have sprung up in towns and cities across their country. We are fighting a battle where the survival of our free way of life is at stake. And the center of gravity of that struggle is not just on the battlefield. It is a test of wills and it will be won or lost with our public and the publics of free nations across the globe. We will need to do all we can to attract supporters to our efforts, to correct the lies being told which so damage our country, and shatter the appeal of the enemy.”
- Secretary Rumsfeld, on February 16 at the House Committee on Appropriations, commented that Iraqi Security Forces are increasingly taking the lead: “Because of the progress on the security, political and economic fronts, US military commanders recommended, and the President has directed, that the United States reduce its combat strength in Iraq by about two brigades, from 17 to 15. At the same time, the US military will be shifting more to a supporting role, as Iraqi forces take even more of a leading role in securing their own country. However, as the President has stated, force level decisions will be condition based. They have been and will continue to be determined by an assessment of Iraq's progress on the political, economic, and security fronts.”



Iraq Weekly Status – General Information

D
E
P
A
R
T
M
E
N
T

O
F

S
T
A
T
E

- This brief draws from multiple sources. References are cited on the following pages.
- Please forward all questions and/or comments to NEA-I-IPOG-DL@state.gov



Notes and Source Citations (1 of 4)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Slide 5:

- DoD Press Release, Feb. 20, 2006: http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Feb2006/20060220_4254.html
- DoD Press Release, Feb. 18, 2006: http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Feb2006/20060218_4244.html

Slide 6:

- MNSTC-I – The Advisor – Feb. 18, 2006: <http://www.mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil/>
- MNSTC-I – The Advisor – Feb. 18, 2006: <http://www.mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil/>

Slide 7:

- DoD Input to Iraq Weekly Status Report 08 Feb 06

Slide 8:

- <http://asia.news.yahoo.com/060219/3/2g2pc.html>
- USAID Reconstruction Weekly Update 17 February 2006

Slide 9:

- IECI Website http://www.ieciraq.org/English/Frameset_english.htm

Slide 11:

- The IRRF Financial Chart is sourced from the 8 Feb 06 IRMO Weekly Status Report

Slide 12:

- POC Tom Gramaglia, (202) 736-4065
- The chart shows average daily power production in megawatt hours (MWh). 120,000 MWh goal equates to 20 hours at 6000 MW average supplied load or 24 hours at 5000 MW average supply load. Currently supplies are not much improved over last year when judged by hours of power, but this is due in part to an influx of new appliances. This has dramatically altered demand and diluted the effect of increased generation capacity on actual results.

Slide 13:

- USACE Daily Report 15 February 2006
- PCO weekly status report, 21 February 2006
- PCO Weekly Status Report 14 February 2006



Notes and Source Citations (2 of 4)

D
E
P
A
R
T
M
E
N
T

O
F

S
T
A
T
E

Slide 14:

- <http://www.grd.usace.army.mil/news/releases/recon013006.html>
- USAID Reconstruction Report – 17 February 2006.

Slide 15:

- MNF-I Reconstruction Report – 20 February 2006.

Slide 16:

- Oil Prices are sourced from Bloomberg
- Information regarding the Employment Update was sourced from the IRMO Weekly Report – February 15, 2006
- CERP has not reported figures for some time. Until they report accurate data, the number will remain at 0.
- PCO will be reporting on a bi-weekly basis.

Slide 17:

- Information regarding the NID auction was gathered from the Central Bank of Iraq's website: <http://www.cbiraq.org>.

Slide 18:

- Iraqi Bond Prices are sourced from Bloomberg

Slide 19:

- Information regarding Finland's Debt Cancellation Agreement was sourced from Arab Press Digest – February 20, 2006
- Information regarding the Iraqi wheat deals was sourced from Reuters and MENAFN.com: http://www.menafn.com/qn_country.asp?country=IQ



Notes and Source Citations (3 of 4)

Slide 20:

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690
- Iraq Petroleum Sector Facts
 - There are three main refineries in Iraq: Bayji (North), Daura (Baghdad), and Basra (South).
 - There are several minor refineries (known as topping plants) dotted through the country: Kisik (Mosul), Qarrayah, Haditha, Tikrit, Nassiriyah, Maysan (Amarah), and Samawah. These primarily produce asphalt and low grade kerosene and diesel.
 - The majority of Iraq's oil infrastructure is antiquated and in need of modernization.
 - Domestically produced refined products (gasoline/benzene, diesel, kerosene, LPG) currently do not meet domestic demand because of sabotage to the pipeline infrastructure. Iraq will be dependent upon imports until the insurgents cease operations against oil pipelines.

Slide 21:

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690
- 2003 = \$5.08 billion
- 2004 = \$17.5 billion
- Projected revenue implies if the current export rate held for the entire month.

Slide 22:

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690
- Goals set by the State Oil Marketing Organization (SOMO), a company owned by the Ministry of Oil (MOO).

Slide 23:

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690



Notes and Source Citations (4 of 4)

Slide 24:

- McKeeby, David, [Iraq Needs Immediate Aid To Prosecute Saddam Hussein's Regime](http://usinfo.state.gov/mena/Archive/2006/Feb/16-226361.html), <http://usinfo.state.gov/mena/Archive/2006/Feb/16-226361.html>

Slide 25:

- http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/I/IRAQ_US_IRAN?SITE=ILROR&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT
- <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=17512&Cr=iraq&Cr1=>

Slide 26:

- http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/I/IRAQ_US_IRAN?SITE=ILROR&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT
- <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=17512&Cr=iraq&Cr1=>

Slide 27:

- DOD Input to Weekly Status Report 01 Feb 06-Report is updated bi-weekly.

Slide 28:

- Address to the Nation, Statement by the President, February 22.
- US Department of State, Embassy Baghdad Press Release, February 22

Slide 29:

- Secretary Rumsfeld At The Council On Foreign Relations, February 17
- (Secretary Rumsfeld, Committee On Appropriations, U.S. House Of Representatives, Testimony As Prepared For Delivery, 2/16/06)